

## **City of Fitchburg Conservation Commission**

### **MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2006**

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Tom Starr, Chairman, Dave Brooks, Mike Donnelly, Harry Karis, John Koutonen

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Tim Smith, Mike O'Hara

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Starr called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Veteran's Room, First Floor, City Hall.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Fitchburg Water Dept., Filtration plant, Rindge Rd.- Cert. of Compliance

John Deline, Water Dept., Michael Gold of Earth Tech and Paul Praderion of Walsh Construction present. Water Dept has requested certificate of compliance for water filtration plant.

Request was accompanied by certificate dated 2005 by P.E. from Earth Tech that site was completed.

Mr. Donnelly: the certificate is subject to numerous exceptions & clarifications and "remaining punchlist items." Does this equal a certificate by P.E. that the site complies with the order of conditions?

Tim: No. It was done in preparation for cert. of occupancy for the building. They need to update the certificate and tailor it to the ConCom's approved plan.

Discussion of heavy rains in summer '03 during construction and washouts that deposited silt into nearby brook which drains into Greene's Pond. What can be done to mitigate that, what would Walsh, Earth Tech suggest?

Mr. Donnelly suggested - since all this discharges to Greene's Pond which is a dying pond because of accumulation of silt at bottom, do something (dredge?) pond to insure it remains a pond.

Agreed: - Tim will inspect Filtration Plant site & come up with items still to be resolved.

John Deline: Water Dept. employees have been removing silt fence, hay bales as they can get to it.

*[Suggestion -- Commission should state in boilerplate conditions: "remove silt fence & haybales when project is done & site is stabilized."]*

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Notice of Intent - "Woodland Estates" mobile home park expansion, Rindge Rd.

(cont'd from 8-29-06)

Chris Deloge, Whitman & Bingham Assocs. requested continuance on behalf of applicant Joanne Hamberg. Chris still working on revisions showing drainage swales, etc.

Hearing continued to November 28 meeting.

Notice of Intent - Matson Homes, Inc., "Parker Hill Estates" subdivision, off Brierwood Drive & Colony Rd.

(cont'd from 8-29-06)

Fax rec'd 10-30 from Wes Flis requesting postponement to 11-21. Also they want feedback from Plng. Bd. on proposed changes discussed at recent ConCom meeting, and a ConCom member to attend the next Plng. Bd. meeting. Com agreed to postpone to next meeting.

**Notice of Intent - 80 Erdman Way LLC, parking lot expansion (cont'd from 10-30-06)**

Chris Deloge & Tim had met on site. Concern raised over steep slope on west side of site. Pavement will be right up to edge of steep slope. Needs a fence.

Tim: since this is a "previously developed area" ConCom has a lot of leeway. Commission could deny the expansion & it would be upheld by DEP. Riverfront regulations allows for off-site mitigation to compensate for the work in the Riverfront area.

Mr. Donnelly: thinks ConCom would be willing to approve project, subject to whatever off-site mitigation the Commission could agree upon. He suggested considering some of the items that ACOE has been after the city for years to resolve as part of flood control project (removing shoaling, vegetation in Nashua River).

**Notice of Intent - Seney, Ashby State Road, driveways- 2 building lots (cont'd from 10-30-06)**

Chris McKenzie and Steve Seney presented plan.

Tim Smith's report was reviewed. Concern raised with ledge & steep slopes and possible runoff & icing onto Rt. 31.

Q: will 2 proposed sediment basins infiltrate? ConCom needs info on that. Water draining onto Rt. 31 is the big concern.

Seney: Suggested a drywell recharge at end of each driveway.

ConCom: He needs to find out area of drainage subbasin, determine amount of runoff & determine ability of soils to recharge the runoff -- if soils will absorb it. No test pits, deep hole tests done yet in area of basins.

Suggested: find multiple locations to recharge water, roof drains, water bars along driveways, etc. -- not just at bottom of driveway .

Hearing continued to 11-28.

In the meantime, ConCom OKed Seney to work in buffer zone to dig deep holes.

**OTHER ITEMS**

Commission signed Certificate of Compliance for 1055 Ashby West Road (Lot 5) and several others.

Mike D. -- in new developments, open space should be deeded up front, prior to construction -- not after the development is done.

Motion made & seconded to adjourn. Vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting: Nov. 28, 2006

*Approved: 12-26-06*